

The Independent.

J. W. ROBERTS, Editor.
JOHN W. DAY, Associate Editor.
OSKALOOSA, KANSAS.
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CONCENTRATION OF EFFORT.

Nothing of real importance can be accomplished by either individuals or communities, without concentration of effort. If a man squanders his time he never succeeds in doing any thing worthy of note; if he dissipates his efforts, whether of body or mind, they will result in only trifling achievements. And it is equally true of communities and corporations.

If our people wish to attain any end worth striving for, they must concentrate their efforts. We have neither the means nor the energy to throw away. If we divide our strength and labor to do too much, we shall fail, in the end, that we have not half succeeded in any thing.

Alas, we have a railroad to build, let us unite our energies on that one which is most needed, and make it a sure thing before we begin another. If we undertake to build two or three or a dozen at a time, they will all languish, and probably fail entirely.

If we have improvements of any kind to make, as roads, bridges, or other public conveniences and necessities, let us have a union of effort, as far as it is possible, and harmony of action.

Unfortunately for the general good, in all countries, and especially in new ones, there are too many persons who have personal objects in view, to many who have "axes of their own to grind," to be willing to work heartily for the public welfare. Each individual has his pet scheme to carry out, which is to benefit himself, but which he wishes to convince others to be of great utility to the country or neighborhood; and if he can only carry his point, it is little he cares for beyond what it will add to his own convenience, or put in his own pocket.

It too often happens, also, that certain communities become possessed of the idea that their locality is about the center of the county, State or universe, and that every thing else must revolve around it. Their town must be the capital of the State or the seat of justice for the county; and it is no difference what natural advantages it may have, or rather what defects may attach to it, the clamorers are either blind to them, or willfully shut their eyes and refuse to look at them. Is there a county in Kansas that has not this fact written in its history to-day? We reckon hardly one. And how many candidates are there in the State for the capital? Will a half a score number them?

Now it is evident we can have but one Capital in the State at a time, and the proper location is determined upon the better. Let some good and as near a central point be selected as may be found; and if the question cannot be determined upon in any other way, let a vote of the people decide the matter—make the location of the Capital a permanent thing, and then concentrate efforts, and means to make it what it ought to be. If we have the seat of government here and there, and at every place spend a few thousands of dollars for offices and necessary conveniences, it will soon come to pass that we have squandered enough funds in this way to build a State House and furnish it. And all this money will be absolutely lost to the State. Let us have concentration of strength in this matter.

If a county keeps changing its seat of justice from one place to another, it loses in the same way. It takes money to fit up offices, even in the plainest manner, and with only what is positively needed to do business. Suppose that three or four or a half-a-dozen places are thus fitted up; is it not plain that in this way the people of the county throw away their hard earned means? Why, enough is frequently spent in this kind of folly to build a respectable Court House. Such waste of money is without any reasonable excuse, and ought not to be.

And the same rule holds good throughout all the ramifications of society. If men wish to build a school-house, and disagreeing upon the location, lay a foundation in one place to-day, and in another to-morrow, and a third next week, it is plain that they will soon sink enough to build the house, and have none in the end. How much wiser to agree in the beginning upon the site, and then unite to build the house! This is a plain case, and all will see its force at once. But when applied to other matters, prejudice and selfishness often intervene to blind the eyes and darken the understanding. Now let this rule also here. There are often in every community private

enterprises so intimately connected with the public welfare, that it becomes the duty of the public to sustain them. Of these we name schools as a prominent one, where they are not supported by public funds. As Churches are generally built up and maintained by denominations, who have long since learned and acted upon the idea of concentrated effort, we need not allude to them more particularly.

Next to Schools and Churches, Newspapers should be encouraged and sustained. They are a necessity in these latter times, and must be had by the people who would prosper.

But if too much is attempted in any of these things, they will all fail entirely, or languish for lack of proper aid, and do but little good.

In new countries especially, there is need to husband the energies and means of the people, and yet it is here that most diffusion is apt to be found. We hope our people will learn wisdom by the failures of others, and not fritter their strength and funds away.

On all matters connected with the public welfare, let there be unity of action and concentration of effort. Don't try to do too much, and have the mortification of looking back to see you have done nothing at all, or nothing well. Don't let private jealousies divide your strength. Unite to accomplish something. Cast about, and select the best point to concentrate and then work with a will. Build railroads, school houses, court houses, and strengthen the hands of those who are laboring for the general good; and in all things, as we said before we say again, let there be concentration of effort.

Items of News.

It is said that Gen. Scott advises the evacuation of Fort Sumter on military principles, and assumes the entire responsibility of the movement.

It is avowed that 3,500 well disciplined troops are in the fortifications around Sumter and that the batteries are in good working order.

At Pensacola, Gen. Bragg has assumed command of the secession forces.

On the 14th inst., in the Pennsylvania Legislature, David Wilmot was elected United States Senator.

Hon. Waldo P. Johnson has been elected United States Senator from Missouri. Jim Green's name was withdrawn.

A Troy (N. Y.) firm are filling an order from the United States for 2,000 brass fuses for bombshells. They are conical in shape, about four inches long, and weigh nearly a pound each.

A large number of Germans of St. Louis, have organized a military battalion, called the "Schwarze Garde," which, as they interpret it, means "Black Jagers."

Mr. Chase's acceptance of a seat in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet has occasioned a vacancy in the United States Senate from Ohio. The following distinguished gentlemen are named as prominent candidates for Senator from that State to fill the vacancy thus created: John Sherman; Gov. William Dennison; John A. Gurley; Benjamin Stanton; Samuel Galloway; Robert C. Schenck and V. B. Horton. They are all able men, and any one of them would do honor to himself, his State and his country in the Senate.

Charles Sumner characterizes President Lincoln's Inaugural as "a hand of steel in a glove of velvet."

The law regulating patent rights has been so amended as to extend their term to seventeen years, and prohibit all extensions.

In the ninth Representative District, the late election, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the removal of Cyrus Taylor, resulted in the election of W. W. Updegraff, by an overwhelming majority.

Dr. Updegraff, we believe, favors the election of Gen. Lane and Hon. M. J. Parris to the United States Senate.

Lapping, R. publican, has been elected to the State Senate from the 34 District, by a majority of 233.

Two men named John Her and James Bouve, were arrested in Omaha, N. T., a short time since, for having robbed the house of Mr. Taylor, living about ten miles from that city. They had taken \$1,000 in money, besides silver ware, watches, jewelry, &c. Mrs. Taylor recognized them in a crowd of men, as the desperadoes who had committed the theft in the absence of her husband. She said that Bouve attempted to murder her, and was prevented from doing so by his companion. Her husband, and told where the goods were secreted. They were found, and brought into court. The men were lodged in jail, but that night about two hundred and fifty prominent citizens broke open the jail, seized Bouve, and hung him in the hall of the prison. Her, who personated the murder, and made the first confession, was released. Bouve was a fine

looking, intelligent, educated young man, who, it seems from his confession, was the leader of a band of thieves in Utah, and one in Denver, who were scattered all along the route from the Missouri river to the mountains.

It is rumored that Fort Pickens was attacked by the secession troops on Saturday last. The report needs confirmation.

It is asserted that Gen. Beauregard will not permit Maj. Anderson and his command to leave Ft. Sumter, except as prisoners of war. The rumor is not accredited at Washington.

The steamer Kansas Valley, passed the Kansas river the other day with a load of seed wheat.

John Mitchell writes from Paris to the Charleston Mercury that the Spanish Government is becoming alarmed by the anticipated designs of the Southern Confederacy upon Cuba.

SECRETARY CHASE will enforce the rule requiring all applicants in his department to be examined as to qualification. This course will prevent much evil, that might result from the political and personal favoritism and official looseness that has heretofore characterized this department of the government.

According to the last census, Illinois is entitled to fourteen Congressmen. She has heretofore had but nine members.

It is reported that hostilities exist between the Osage Indians and the white settlers in the neighborhood of Leroy, Coffey County, in this State. Several persons have been killed, others scalped, and depredations upon stock occur almost daily.

The first public levee of President Lincoln was given on the night of the 8th inst. It is said to be the largest affair of the kind ever known in Washington.

A Washington correspondent of the *Conservative* says: "Gov. Robinson has made a requisition upon the War Department for arms, &c., and Capt. Stockton is now selecting such arms, accoutrements, &c., as will be necessary for the complete equipment of the Leavenworth Fencibles. They get the newest style of gun, and will be one of the best equipped corps in the United States."

The latest, and we think the best, fashion announced from Europe, is a plain costume in attending church. Ladies of the first circle go up to worship in plain calico. The object of dressing so plainly on such occasions, is to encourage the attendance of the poor, who have been kept from church for want of clothes to correspond with those in better circumstances than themselves.

Communicated.

RELIEF MEETING.

OSKALOOSA, KANSAS, March 19, '61. Pursuant to previous announcement, a meeting of the citizens of Oskaloosa Township was held at the office of M. R. Dutton, Esq., at which James Monroe was chosen Chairman, and John W. Day was elected Secretary.

The chairman asked that the object of the meeting be stated by some one who knew it, when Warrham Gibbs presented a letter from Gen. S. C. Pomeroy, stating that charges had been made to him that the Township Relief Committee had been selling seed wheat sent for distribution to those who intended to sow it.

Mr. Gibbs made the following brief report of his proceedings, which were received and approved:

"I, W. Gibbs, appointed as Distributing Agent in and for Oskaloosa Township, beg leave to make the following report:

"I commenced Feb. 19th, 1861, and have distributed as follows up to March 14th 1861:

Bushels of corn meal,	171 1/2
lbs of flour	3037
Corn meal on hand (bush.)	40
Bushels of flour on hand	4 1/2
Wheat received (sacks)	137
Wheat distributed	137
Cash received	\$26.00
Cash paid to past Committee	
on hand	\$8.00
Dr. to carry rendered	2.00
24 days	\$12.00
Dr. to paper purchased	25
Balance	2.25

Sixteen persons have received wheat and paid no freight.

(Signed) WARRHAM GIBBS, President.

Mr. Gibbs verbally explained that some wheat had been sold at \$1 per bushel to persons who could not get it elsewhere, but would not take it as a gratuity. To others who were able and

willing to pay something for it, it was distributed at 25 cts per bushel. The money thus received had been appropriated to the payment of expenses necessarily incurred. Persons who desired to sow wheat and were not able to pay for hauling, received it gratuitously.

M. Gibbs' statement was corroborated by the testimony of respectable persons of these several classes who had dealt with him, and by others who examined his books.

John W. Day offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, complaints have been made to Gen. S. C. Pomeroy, against the Relief Committee of Oskaloosa Township, and the manner of their distributing seed wheat—

Resolved, That this meeting is fully satisfied with the Township Committee, fully endorses the manner in which they have performed their part in distributing Relief Goods and seed Wheat sent to this township, and recommends to Gen. Pomeroy, as in every respect worthy of confidence.

Dr. Dickinson tendered his resignation as Secretary to the Committee, which, on motion of Dr. C. A. Bach, was accepted.

On motion of John W. Day, the Committee were empowered to fill the vacancy by the appointment of one of their own number.

G. B. McFellam offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That, as there are many farmers in this Township, who have not yet received any seed wheat, we request Gen. Pomeroy to honor the orders of our Committee for seed wheat. The meeting then adjourned.

JAMES MONROE, Chairman
JOHN W. DAY, Secretary.

General News.

THE LATEST NEWS RECEIVED BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

To the Daily Conservative and Daily Times.

Letter from Secretary Holt.

Ex-Secretary Holt's first act out of office is worthy of all his acts in office. He is a patriot now and then, and has the same scorn for treason and prejudice.

Ex-Secretary Thompson's first act out of office was, in his address to the people of Mississippi, to avow that he had telegraphed to Judge Longstreet that the Star of the West was coming with reinforcements for Fort Sumter, and to state that the reinforcement was "a concealed trick, first conceived by General Scott, and adopted by Secretary Holt." In a letter to the editors of the National Intelligencer, Mr. Holt, with the just indignation of an honest man, stamps his avowed act as vile and cruel treason, and his Partisan statements as a lie.

Secretary Holt says that so far from the movement for the reinforcement of Fort Sumter having been a concealed trick, it was repeatedly and frankly discussed in the Cabinet, and when the conclusion was finally reached, the resolution of the President was announced in terms as emphatic as he probably ever addressed one of his Secretaries. This is sustained by four of the oldest members of the late Cabinet. In concluding Mr. H. says: "If, however, this explanation shall secure me the confidence of those true hearted patriots who still love the Union better than all the spoils of power which a Revolution can promise, then I shall little regard the condemnation of men who for the last two months have incessantly denounced me throughout the South, simply and solely because I have refused to blacken my soul with prejudice by betraying the Government of my country, while in its service."

Senate Executive Session.

St. Louis, March 14.—A. K. In the U. S. Senate yesterday Mr. Douglas offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the Forts in the seceded States, if it is necessary to occupy the same, what force will be necessary for that purpose, etc. Messrs. Wilson and Mason objecting, the resolution lies over.

Mr. Fessenden offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to strike from the roll of the Senate the names of Senators, from the seceding States, who have declared they are no longer members of the Senate.

Union Committee in Texas—Houston, March 14.

St. Louis, March 14. Telegraphic advices from Galveston, March 11th, state that Gov. Houston refuses to recognize the Convention, and considers that its functions terminated in submitting the secession ordinance to the people. He tells the Convention that he and the Legislature which meets on the 18th, will attend to the public questions now arising. He favors a new Convention, to make such changes in the State Constitution as are necessary. He is opposed to Texas joining the Confederacy.

The Convention, in reply, passed an ordinance claiming full powers, and promising to compensate the connection of Texas with the Confederate States, and notifies the State of this course. The Convention will require all officers to take an oath of allegiance to the new Government, and to carry out the Convention's ordinance.

It is said Mr. Clarke will be put in Houston's place if the latter refuses to take an oath. It is also reported that Gov. Houston is raising troops on his own account. 1500 Texan troops are at and near Brownsville.

Similar advices from Brazos to the 6th say, that arrangements are made for the Federal troops to leave as soon as transportation is provided.

The Convention has passed an ordinance to continue the Custom House oficers on duty until superseded by the State Government, or by the Provisional Government.

Foreign News—Victor Emmanuel to Enter Rome—France Ignores Secession.

By the Eux and Palestine we have European dates to the 23rd of February. News generally important. The Italian Senate, by a vote of 129 to 2, adopted the project of a law, conferring the title of King of Italy on Victor Emmanuel and successor.

The assertion is repeated that a Piedmontese brigade would soon enter Rome and that Romans were secretly preparing to receive Victor Emmanuel.

The Emperor of Austria had signed the new Constitution. The new diet which is composed of an upper and lower house, has the right of legislation. The Hungarian Constitution remains in tact.

The Papal Government was preparing a statement to the effect that all responsibility for the late events lies with Napoleon. The French are about to occupy a part of Ferrauche.

Mr. Thiers had officially assured the American minister at Paris, that no delegate had been received from the seceding State by the Emperor or himself. A committee of the Senate had adopted a projected speech, fully endorsing the Emperor's policy, and leading his protection to the Pope.

Liverpool, Feb. 27th.—Flour dull and 5d cheaper. Wheat quiet. Feb. 28th.—Bread stuffs closed dull but steady.

London, 23th.—A meeting of the bank directors was adjourned, without having made any further alteration in the rate of discount. American securities remain without quotable change.

Anarchy in Texas.

St. Louis, March 15. Telegraphic information from Galveston, March 11th, says that the surrender of Fort Brown has been agreed upon quietly, between the Texas Commissioners and Captain Hill, on the 6th.

The Galveston News says, that Fort Brown will be given up as soon as transportation could be found for Federal troops. The troops will take to the coast two light batteries of artillery.

The steamer Daniel Webster was off Brazos, waiting to take a portion of the troops on board. Other vessels will probably be dispatched to take the remainder.

Texas troops at Brazos are represented to be fortifying the Island so as to make it impregnable.

The above dispatch of the 11th states an ordinance, to submit the permanent Constitution to the people for ratification or rejection, has been under consideration to-day. A resolution authorizing the transfer of the State military to the provisional Government, also, to allow the volunteers to enlist under the latter, passed the House to-day. A joint resolution was introduced and laid over, that the Convention should subject the Constitution of the Confederate States to the people, or a Convention elected for that purpose.

IN THE SENATE—THE DISUNIONISTS OUSTED.

St. Louis, March 15, P. M.—In the United States Senate yesterday, Mr. Mason offered a resolution which was laid over under the rule enquiring of the Secretary of War whether any position of the District of Columbia Militia have been mustered into service of the U. S.

The Senate refused by a vote of six to twenty-four to take up Douglas's resolution, enquiring into the condition of the Southern forts.

The balance of the session was consumed upon motions relative to the course to be pursued with Senators from seceded States. Finally, the following substitute, offered by Clark, was adopted, twenty-four to ten:

Whereas, The seats occupied by Brown, Davis, Mallory, Clay, Toombs and Benjamin, as members of the Senate, have become vacant, therefore,

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to omit their names respectively from the roll.

Mr. Mason ineffectually proposed to amend the resolution by making it read the gentlemen named have ceased to be members.

APPOINTMENTS—CARTER GOV. OF NEBRASKA.

Yesterday the U. S. Senate, besides a number of navy and army appointments confirmed, confirmed Wm. Allen Postmaster at Omaha, N. M. J. Ames, Postmaster at Fort Union, N. M.; J. H. Phillips, Collector at Salem, Mass.; J. R. Jones, Marshall of the Northern District of Illinois; and Cassius M. Clay, Minister to Spain.

The nomination of Corwin to Mexico was not acted upon, his acceptance not being determined upon. The only nomination was Jacob Holsman, Minister to Stockholm.

Clay's son will be Secretary of Legation to Mexico.

D. K. Carter has been appointed Governor of Nebraska. There are upwards of 2500 troops waiting conveyance northward, in Texas.

THE CHARLESTONIANS FORTIFYING.

Accounts from Charleston say that Gov. Pickens and Gen. Beauregard have decided on erecting fortifications at Stono and all the points leading to that harbor.

Among the appointments mentioned are those of Elijah Hamlin, brother of the Vice President, as Commissioner under the Reciprocity treaty with Great Britain, and Green Clay, son of Brutus J. Clay, as Secretary Legation to Spain.

J. H. Wheeler, Ex-Minister to Nicaragua, has been removed from the position of Document Clerk in the Interior Department.

C. J. Forney, in command of the Pennsylvania Navy Yard, informed the commander of the Brooklyn, on the 6th, that he could get no more coal or water at that station.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

St. Louis, March 15, P. M.—The Washington Cabinet held two meetings yesterday and to-day. At the latter Gen. Scott was present, which occasions the surmise that military affairs were under consideration.

A Washington dispatch of the 14th, says Commissioners Forsyth and Crawford, yesterday, sent an official note asking recognition, stating that an answer would be called for to-day. The Secretary of the Commission accordingly called at the State Department for a reply. The response was a request for time to consider their propositions, which was accorded.

The opinion prevails that the Administration will refer the whole matter to the Senate for advice.

It is denied in Administration circles that any unusual naval display is intended in Southern waters. The vessels at New York are to be put in transport service.

St. Louis, March 15.

The New York Evening Post denies that the veteran editor and accomplished poet, Wm. Cullen Bryant is an applicant for the post of minister to Spain. He is not, says that paper, a suitor for any office, and is as far from expecting any as from asking it.

A baptistery has been constructed under the pulpit of Henry Ward Beecher's church. The pastor does not hold that one form of baptism is right, and all others wrong; and while he professes sprinkling, he always administers baptism in the mode most consistent with the individual views of the applicant.

Mr. Lincoln desires the promotion of Maj. Anderson to the rank of Brigadier General, as the successor of the traitor Twiggs. Col. Sumner, who accompanied the President on his journey to Washington, desires the position, and has the army influence in his favor. But the President and the country prefer the gallant hero of Sumter.

The guns of Fort Sumter, which have been silent since the anniversary of Washington's birth-day, fired a salute of thirty-four guns on inauguration day. The stars and stripes were also hoisted over the Fort on that occasion. The little band who are shut up within its walls evidently are full of patriotism, if they are short of provisions.

Mr. Black, late Secretary of State, addressed a circular letter to all foreign governments, protesting against the recognition of the Confederate States. The protest will be renewed in stronger terms by the present Administration, and when Yancy and his colleagues get abroad, they may find their diplomatic honors worthless.

The New York Herald's Washington correspondent says the quarrel about the construction of the Cabinet was not among the men who composed it, but was entirely against their wishes. There is perfect good feeling between Mr. Seward and Mr. Chase, and also between those gentlemen and Mr. Cameron. All speculations about a probable division in the councils of the Administration, growing out of rivalry among Mr. Lincoln's advisers, are without foundation.—Times.

A new plowing machine is described by which three furrows, each a foot wide and a foot deep, are not only turned over, but thoroughly stirred up and pulverized; the operation being something like worming a screw through the soil in a circle, and the earth flying around in a circle, and that of the three diggers mixing through each other.

Tux Huntville (Alabama) Independent thus deplores a mistake of the conspirators in Tennessee:

"With deep sorrow and the most and forebodings for her future, we are forced to announce that our sister State, Tennessee, has resolved not to call or even a Convention of her people in the present crisis. Her Legislatures must now be the folly of submitting the question of Convention to the popular vote."

Thousands upon thousands of her people—and we speak with no disrespect of the intelligence of the State—did not and could not know whether there was necessity for calling a Convention or not."

DECEASED.—The Louisiana Convention, on Saturday, adopted an ordinance to transfer to the "Confederate States certain funds now in the hands

of the State." This is putting a very fine point on it, indeed. No gentleman of the road could proceed to divide the booty of a night's work with his pals, in winter phases. There is a shivaree and courtly effluvia about it, which overcomes us. Rindole never did a thing with more agreeable results. Jack Shepard never helped himself to a purse with a more charming how. There is no etiquette like that of the highwayman. "Your ring, sir, does credit to your taste in green." "That watch is a most accurate time-keeper, I am sure; allow me to look at it." What is the prevailing currency of your region?" The members of the Louisiana Convention are evidently who will to all the niceties of the flesh dialect.

Chicago Tribune, March 15.

In the Virginia Convention yesterday Tyler closed a long speech. He demanded that Virginia put forth an ultimatum demanding full and simple security as the only condition of remaining in the Union. He thought such security would eventually bring back the Cotton States, and Virginia cannot exist without them.

The speech generally was conciliatory, but unequivocally favored Southern rights.

Any of our readers afflicted with SCORFULA or Scrofulous complaints will do well to read the remarks in our advertising columns respecting it. But little of the nature of this disorder has been known by the people, and the clear exposition of it there given will prove acceptable and useful. We have long admired the searching and able manner in which Dr. Allen treats every subject he touches; whatever his attention at all, has a great deal of it; he masters what he undertakes, and no one who has a particle of feeling for his afflicted fellow man, can look with indifference upon his efforts for the sick. Read what he says of Scrofula, and you will see more than we all have known of this insidious and fatal malady.—San Francisco, Pa.

THE NEW U. S. JUDGE.

Some curiosity has been manifested in reference to the gentleman who has been appointed Judge of the U. S. District Court of Kansas. Hon. Ashbel Williams, who has been selected to occupy that important position, is a student of Quincy, Illinois. He is formerly a whig, and was twice the candidate of that party for U. S. Senator. He is a man of fine legal attainments, and of great popularity in his own State. The Chicago Tribune says, "the quality of his intellect is that of surprising clearness and directness, which, added to a profound knowledge of the law, and an incorruptible integrity, makes him the one among a thousand to adorn the bench."—Times.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The N. Y. World says: Wm. H. Seward succeeds to almost the only high office in this Government which has not, at one time or another, fallen into the hands of inferior or unworthy men. Jefferson, Marshall, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Clay, Calhoun, Webster, Everett, May and Cass, are his predecessors. The country has reason to rejoice that a patriotic Administration has a statesman of such capacity as its premier, the President so sagacious and patriotic a principal adviser, and that our intercourse with foreign nations, which possible events may render of so much importance, will be under such wise direction.

Mr. Seward is in the prime of life and vigor, just turning his sixtieth year. His history is too well known in the States where "favorite son" he has been, to need recapitulation here.

There has been an exchange of shots at Fort Sumter. Friday morning, one of the guns at Cumming's Point was accidentally discharged, the ball striking Fort Sumter near the gate. Major Anderson at once opened upon the iron battery, thinking the time to test the weight of metal, and comparative tenacity of brick work and sand and railroad iron, had arrived. The Southern heart was not fired, and a boat was dispatched to the Major, with proper apologies. As shots have been exchanged, we suppose the auspicious time for the settlement of difficulties has arrived. The country will not be displeased to hear that Major Anderson was so prompt this time to burn powder.

The people of Atlanta are very anxious for their city to be made the capital of the Southern Confederacy. But the editors there will spoil the scheme if they are not more careful. In all their articles on the subject they claim in a whole parcel about the "pure, delicious freestone water" to be had there. Haven't they been around enough to know that the public men of this country generally would go farther for a single bottle of "Dexter's best," or even his worst, than for a spring of "pure, delicious freestone water," as large as a forty-acre field? Never mind your freestone springs. If you want the capital there, your entire weight upon your groceries.—Nashville, Tenn.

The wheat crop of Northern Texas is represented as unusually promising. A larger amount of land has been devoted to the crop than ever before, while the season has been highly favorable, and the plant is well advanced and thrifty. The crop is now ripening almost beyond danger, and an early harvest is actively expected.